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ABSTRACT

This document was designed to help schools in the U.S. comply with the Gun-Free Schools Act (GFSA). Following information on data interpretation and quality, the report is divided into three sections and summarizes the 1997-98 data submitted by the states. The first section is a brief summary of the overall findings. The second section presents a summary of the 1997-98 data and provides a comparison between the 1997-98 and 1996-97 data. The tables in this section contain data notes that are critical to the correct interpretation of the data. The third section features an interpretive page for each state that contains the data submitted by the state, as well as caveats or data notes. Overall findings indicate that 56 states and U.S. territories reported under the GFSA for the 1997-98 school year. According to these reports, 3,930 students were expelled from school for bringing a firearm to school. Fifty-seven percent of the expulsions were for students in high school, 33 percent were for junior-high students, and ten percent were for thirty-three elementary school students. Finally, two appendices to the report include a copy of the GFSA and a copy of the 1997-98 GFSA state data collection. (Author/RJM)

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Report on State Implementation of the Gun-Free Schools Act

School Year 1997-98

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Final Report
August 1999

EA 030014

Prepared under contract by:

Westat
Rockville, MD
Contract No. EA94052001

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Report on State Implementation of the Gun-Free Schools Act – School Year 1997-98

Final Report
August 1999

Prepared for:
U.S. Department of Education
Office of Elementary and Secondary Education
and
Planning and Evaluation Service
Contract No. EA94052001

Prepared by:

Beth Sinclair
Westat
Rockville, MD

The views expressed in this report developed under contract to the U.S. Department of Education do not necessarily reflect the policy of the Department, and no official endorsement by the Department should be inferred.

Report on State Implementation of the Gun-Free Schools Act -School Year 1997-98

Introduction

The Gun-Free Schools Act (GFSA) states that each state receiving federal funds under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) must have a state law that requires all local educational agencies (LEAs) in the state to expel from school for at least one year any student found bringing a firearm to school. (See Appendix A for a copy of the GFSA.) State laws must also authorize the LEA chief administering officer to modify any such expulsion on a case-by-case basis. In addition, the GFSA states that it must be construed to be consistent with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

The GFSA requires states to report information about the implementation of the act annually to the Secretary of Education. In order to meet this requirement and to monitor compliance with the GFSA, the Department of Education (the Department) requires each state[1] to submit an annual report that provides:

- The number of students expelled (by type of firearm and school level),
- The number of expulsions that were modified on a case-by-case basis,
- The number of modified cases that were not for students with disabilities, and
- The number of expelled students who were referred to an alternative school or program.

Two additional items regarding specific LEA compliance with the GFSA were reported but are not included in this report.

Data Collection and Verification

estat, under contract to the Department, collected the data from each state department of education. In order to ensure that the data are reported accurately, the following procedures were followed:

- As each survey was received, it was reviewed for accuracy and entered into a database.
- In approximately 20 cases, Westat contacted the state to obtain a correction or clarification of the submitted data. For example, the data provider was contacted if the submitted forms were not internally consistent, if the rows and/or columns did not add to the printed totals, or if the 1997-98 data represented a large change from the data reported for 1996-97.
- Once Westat received all of the data, all states were contacted and asked to provide final data verification by fax.

[1] For the remainder of this report, the term "states" refers to all 56 jurisdictions (states and territories) covered under the Gun-Free Schools Act.

Organization of the Report

Following information on data interpretation and quality, this report is divided into three sections and summarizes the 1997-98 data submitted by the states. The first section is a brief summary of the overall findings. The second section presents a summary of the 1997-98 data in bulleted, graphic, and tabular form as well as a comparison between the 1997-98 and 1996-97 data. The tables in this section contain data notes that are critical to the correct interpretation of the data. The third section presents a page for each state. Each page contains the data submitted by the state, as well as any caveats or data notes accompanying the data. Finally, there are two appendices to the report – Appendix A contains a copy of the Gun-Free Schools Act and a copy of the 1997-98 GFSA state data collection instrument can be found in Appendix B.

Data Quality and Interpretation of Findings

All of the information contained in this report should be interpreted with caution. First, as noted on the summary state tables and on the individual state pages, some states attached caveats and data notes to their data that should be considered when interpreting the data. This is of particular importance when examining national totals, as they are made up of data that are not necessarily comparable from state to state in all cases. Second, some states submitted aggregate data that were not broken out by school level and/or type of weapon. The expulsions for these states are included in the overall summary totals but are not included in the figures by type of firearm or school level. This means that the total number of reported expulsions differs for each questionnaire item summarized in this report.

The 1997-98 information shown in this report represents a significant improvement over the data submitted by the states for 1996-97 or 1995-96. We expect that the quality of the data submitted under the GFSA will continue to improve, and the Department will work to assist the states in their data reporting to ensure this improvement.

Finally, this report is not designed to provide information to the reader regarding the rate at which students carry firearms to school. The data reported by the states concern disciplinary actions only.

Summary of Findings

- Overall, 56 states reported under the GFSA for the 1997-98 school year. These states reported that they expelled a total of 3,930 students from school for bringing a firearm[2] to school. However, not all states reported data for all of their districts, and some states reported total expulsions for all weapons, not just firearms. Therefore, the figures reported by some states may either over- or underestimate the actual expulsions under the GFSA. Refer to Table 1 for more detailed information regarding the over- and underestimates as well as other data caveats.
- Fifty-seven percent of the expulsions by school level were students in high school, 33 percent were in junior high, and 10 percent were in elementary school. These data were reported by school level in 53 states. (See Table 2)

[2] See Appendices A and B for a detailed definition of firearm.

- Sixty-two percent of the expulsions reported by type of firearm were for bringing a handgun to school. Seven percent of these expulsions were for bringing a rifle or shotgun to school, and 31 percent were for some other type of firearm (such as bombs, grenades, or starter pistols). The data were reported by type of weapon by 52 states. (See Table 3)
- Forty-nine states reported on expulsions that were shortened to less than one year. In these states, 44 percent of expulsions were shortened to less than one year. (See Table 5)
- Forty-eight states reported on the disability status of students receiving shortened expulsions. In these states, 62 percent of shortened expulsions were for students who were not considered disabled. (See Table 6)
- In the 48 states reporting data on alternative placements, 43 percent of the expelled students in these states were referred to an alternative school or placement. (See Table 7)

Expulsions for Bringing a Firearm to School - Overview

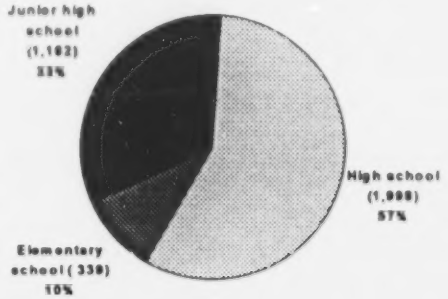
Overall, all 56 states provided data on the number of students expelled for bringing a firearm to school, for a total of 3,930 expulsions. California and Texas were the only states with greater than 300 expulsions, and Wyoming, American Samoa, Guam, and Northern Marianas reported that they had none during the 1997-98 school year. When viewed as the number of expulsions per 1,000 enrolled students, Delaware, Oregon, and South Dakota had the highest number of expulsions per 1,000 students. Refer to Table 1 for more detailed information on the data provided by the individual states and the appropriate data caveats.

School Level

Fifty-three states provided data on their expulsions by school level. Almost 90 percent of all reported expulsions were reported by school level (3,499 of 3,930).

Of these 3,499 expulsions, over half (1,998 or 57 percent) were students in senior high schools, 33 percent (1,162) were students in junior high, and 10 percent (339) were elementary school students. Note that the percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding (See Figure 1 and Table 2)

Figure 1
Number and percentage of students expelled, by school level, 1997-98



Data notes:
The percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding.
See the detailed caveats on Table 2 for additional information regarding these data.
The figures shown in this graph are based on data reported by 53 states.

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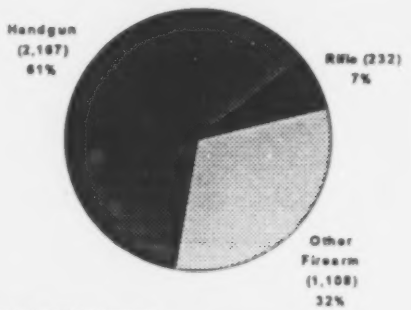
Type of Firearm

Fifty-two states provided data that differentiated the type of firearm brought to school by students. Almost 90 percent of all reported expulsions were reported by type of firearm (3,507 of 3,930).

Of these 3,507 expulsions, 62 percent (2,167) involved handguns, 7 percent (232) involved rifles or shotguns, and the remaining 32 percent (1,108) involved other types of firearms (such as bombs, grenades, starter pistols, and rockets). Note that the percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding. (See Figure 2 and Table 3).

Figure 2
Number and percentage of students expelled, by type of firearm, 1997-98



Data notes:
The percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding.
See the detailed caveats on Table 3 for additional information regarding these data.
The figures shown in this graph are based on data reported by 52 states.

Year to Year Changes – 1996-97 to 1997-98

All but one state submitted data for both 1996-97 and 1997-98. However, in several of these states, the data are not comparable from across the two years primarily because of changes in reporting. In addition, two states, Colorado and North Carolina, revised the data they submitted for 1996-97. As a result, the total number of expulsions reported for 1996-97 differs from previously reported figures.

Among the 55 states which submitted data for both years, the number of students expelled for bringing a firearm to school decreased by 31 percent from 5,724 to 3,930. (See the notes on Table 4 for further information on year-to-year comparability for individual states.)

In discussions with the states, there are two major reasons for this decrease. First, many states indicated that the data reported for 1997-98 were more accurate. In six states (Colorado, Illinois, Maryland, Missouri, Ohio, and Utah), the data submitted prior to 1997-98 included all school crime incidents and/or expulsions for all weapons, rather than just firearms. These reporting irregularities resulted in an overstatement of the number of expulsions under the GFSA for 1996-97. Second, several states reported that they felt that students were getting the message that they were not to bring firearms to school and that, as a result, fewer students were expelled for this offense. See Table 4 for state-by-state information. Pay particular attention to the data caveats that provide additional information regarding changes from 1996-97 to 1997-98.

Shortened Expulsions and Students with Disabilities

The GFSA allows the LEA chief administering officer to modify any expulsion for firearm violations on a case-by-case basis (for example, by shortening the expulsion to less than one year). The purpose of this provision is to allow the chief administering officer in a school district to take unique circumstances into account as well as to ensure that the IDEA and GFSA

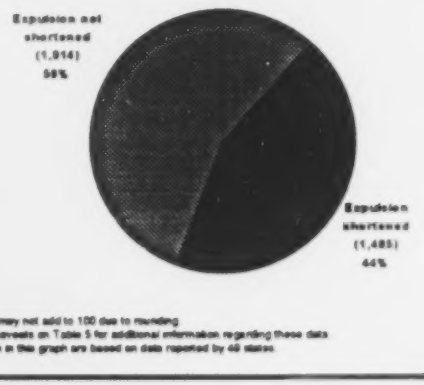
requirements are implemented consistently. In order to capture these modifications, states were asked to report the number of students who had their period of expulsion shortened, as well as the number of these cases that were not for students with disabilities.

Shortened Expulsions

Forty-nine states reported the number of students whose expulsions were shortened to less than one year as part of the case-by-case review process.

Of the 3,399 expulsions in these states, 1,485 (or 44 percent) were shortened to less than one year. Note that the percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding. (See Figure 3 and Table 5)

Figure 3
One-year expulsions vs. expulsions shortened on a case-by-case basis, 1997-98



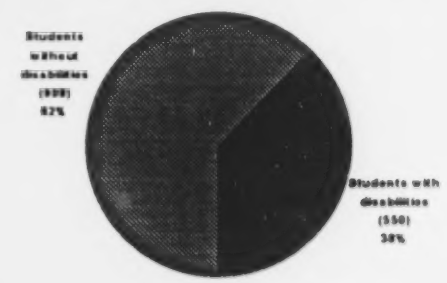
Data notes:
The percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding.
See the detailed caveats on Table 5 for additional information regarding these data.
The figures shown in this graph are based on data reported by 49 states.

Disability Status of Students with Shortened Expulsions

Forty-eight states reported on the disability status of the students with shortened expulsions. Among these 48 states, the overall number of shortened expulsions was 1,459 (compared to 1,485 for the 49 states shown on Table 5).

Of these 1,459 students, 909 (62 percent) were not considered disabled under section 602(a)(1) of IDEA. Note that the percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding. (See Figure 4 and Table 6)

Figure 4
Expulsions shortened on a case-by-case basis, students with and without disabilities, 1997-98



Data notes:
The percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding.
See the detailed caveats on Table 6 for additional information regarding these data.
The figures shown in this graph are based on data reported by 48 states.

Referrals

The GFSA has in place provisions that allow local officials to refer expelled students to an alternative school or program. Forty-eight states reported information for this data item, and among these states 1,433 students (43 percent) were referred for an alternative placement. Note that the percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding. (See Figure 5 and Table 7)

Figure 5
Expulsions referred to an alternative placement, 1997-98

Data notes:
The percentages may not add to 100 due to rounding.
See the detailed caveats on Table 7 for additional information regarding these data.
The figures shown in this graph are based on data reported by 48 states.

Table 1
Number of students expelled for GFSA violations per 1,000 students of the school-age population, 1997-98

State	Number of students expelled in 1997-98	School-age population 1997	Expelled students per 1,000 of pop.	Data Caveats
Alabama	82	778,980	0.105	
Alaska	17	138,924	0.122	
Arizona	111	904,273	0.123	
Arkansas	57	485,938	0.117	
California	382	6,290,575	0.061	
Colorado	76	741,972	0.102	
Connecticut	9	575,481	0.016	
Delaware	29	128,204	0.226	
District of Columbia	4	73,972	0.054	
Florida	153	2,520,043	0.061	
Georgia	203	1,429,690	0.142	
Hawaii	3	214,120	0.014	
Idaho	42	259,657	0.162	
Illinois	86	2,270,655	0.038	
Indiana	62	1,090,352	0.057	
Iowa	30	541,563	0.055	
Kansas	33	508,652	0.065	
Kentucky	72	704,441	0.102	
Louisiana	27	877,178	0.031	
Maine	5	227,841	0.022	
Maryland	64	921,604	0.069	
Massachusetts	46	1,052,157	0.044	For 1997-98, 11 districts were unable to provide information on the number of expulsions that were referred to an alternate placement.
Michigan	99	1,852,011	0.053	
Minnesota	45	934,941	0.048	The information shown for 1997-98 under handguns is actually handguns and rifles/shotguns combined.
Mississippi	47	551,309	0.085	
Missouri	179	1,039,651	0.172	The reported figures may include other weapons such as knives, air guns, or brass knuckles.
Montana	17	175,227	0.097	
Nebraska	11	330,497	0.033	
Nevada	36	312,929	0.115	
New Hampshire	5	222,374	0.022	
New Jersey	40	1,430,257	0.028	
New Mexico	32	365,481	0.088	

Table 1 (cont'd)
Number of students expelled for GFSA violations per 1,000 students of the school-age population, 1997-98

State	Number of students expelled in 1997-98	School-age population 1997	Expelled students per 1,000 of pop.	Data Caveats
New York	91	3,246,349	0.028	The data reported for 1997-98 represent 78 percent of all LEAs. All 5 of the largest LEAs are included. The school-age population figures are for all children aged 5 to 17.
North Carolina	121	1,354,542	0.089	The data shown here are estimates.
North Dakota	1	124,503	0.008	
Ohio	119	2,089,975	0.057	
Oklahoma	17	652,211	0.026	
Oregon	135	597,996	0.226	
Pennsylvania	193	2,125,826	0.091	
Rhode Island	10	171,442	0.058	
South Carolina	85	701,683	0.121	
South Dakota	49	147,892	0.327	Five unidentified firearms violations were not available by grade. They are included in the total by type of firearm under "other" and in the overall total but are not included in the totals by grade.
Tennessee	192	962,800	0.199	
Texas	424	3,968,556	0.107	
Utah	9	492,309	0.018	
Vermont	5	111,015	0.045	Included in the 5 reported 1997-98 incidents is a case where one student brought 2 guns (a handgun and a hunting rifle). This was counted as one incident under "handgun."
Virginia	99	1,191,736	0.083	Virginia does not differentiate between handguns and rifles.
Washington	190	1,068,473	0.178	
West Virginia	17	308,237	0.055	
Wisconsin	66	1,011,134	0.065	
Wyoming	0	100,721	0.000	
Puerto Rico	1	852,354	0.001	
American Samoa	0	13,629	0.000	
Guam	0	31,797	0.000	
Northern Marianas	0	7,766	0.000	
Virgin Islands	2	26,197	0.076	
Total	3,930	51,310,092	0.076	
Number of states reporting:		56		

Data Notes:

The school-age population figures are children aged 5 to 17, including both public and private school students. For the 50 states and the District of Columbia, these figures are for 1997. For Puerto Rico and the other outlying areas, the figures shown are for 1990.

Table 2
Number of students expelled for GFSA violations, by school level, 1997-98

	School Level				
State	Elementary	Junior high	Senior high	Total	Data Caveats
Alabama	4	26	52	82	
Alaska	0	5	12	17	
Arizona	21	49	41	111	
Arkansas	4	22	31	57	
California	31	116	235	382	
Colorado	9	30	37	76	
Connecticut	2	3	4	9	
Delaware	13	4	12	29	
District of Columbia	0	1	3	4	
Florida	5	43	105	153	
Georgia	12	84	107	203	
Hawaii	0	3	0	3	
Idaho	4	13	25	42	
Illinois	6	31	49	86	
Indiana	6	16	40	62	
Iowa	4	6	20	30	
Kansas	3	10	20	33	
Kentucky	5	31	36	72	
Louisiana	3	10	14	27	
Maine	2	2	1	5	
Maryland	2	29	33	64	
Massachusetts	1	14	31	46	For 1997-98, 11 districts were unable to provide information on the number of expulsions that were referred to an alternate placement.
Minnesota	2	23	20	45	The information shown for 1997-98 under handguns is actually handguns and rifles/shotguns combined.
Mississippi	2	16	29	47	
Missouri	26	65	88	179	For 1997-98, the reported figures may include other weapons such as knives, air guns, or brass knuckles.
Montana	3	5	9	17	
Nebraska	2	1	8	11	
Nevada	1	16	19	36	
New Hampshire	0	1	4	5	
New Jersey	3	15	22	40	
New Mexico	3	7	22	32	

Table 2 (cont'd)
Number of students expelled for GFSA violations, by school level, 1997-98

	School Level				
State	Elementary	Junior high	Senior high	Total	Data Caveats
New York	1	35	55	91	The data reported for 1997-98 represent 78 percent of all LEAs. All 5 of the largest LEAs are included.
North Carolina	7	43	71	121	The data shown here are estimates
North Dakota	0	1	0	1	
Ohio	13	36	70	119	
Oklahoma	0	2	15	17	
Pennsylvania	50	41	102	193	
Rhode Island	2	7	1	10	
South Carolina	4	32	49	85	
South Dakota	7	2	35	44	Five unidentified firearms violations were not available by grade. They are included in the total by type of firearm under "other" and in the overall total but are not included in the totals by grade.
Texas	33	136	255	424	
Utah	2	2	5	9	
Vermont	0	2	3	5	Included in the 5 reported 1997-98 incidents is a case where one student brought 2 guns (a handgun and a hunting rifle). This was counted as one incident under "handgun."
Virginia	7	32	60	99	Virginia does not differentiate between handguns and rifles.
Washington	22	60	108	190	
West Virginia	2	7	8	17	
Wisconsin	10	27	29	66	
Wyoming	0	0	0	0	
Puerto Rico	0	0	1	1	
American Samoa	0	0	0	0	
Guam	0	0	0	0	
Northern Marianas	0	0	0	0	
Virgin Islands	0	0	2	2	
Total	339	1,162	1,998	3,499	
Number of states reporting:		53			
Percent of expulsions reported by school level:		89%			

Data notes:

Three states – Michigan, Oregon, and Tennessee – were unable to provide GFSA expulsions broken out by school level.

NA = Not available

Table 3
Number of students expelled for GFSA violations, by type of firearm, 1997-98

	Type of Firearm				
State	Handgun	Rifle	Other	Total	Data Caveats
Alabama	69	6	7	82	
Alaska	10	5	2	17	
Arizona	65	4	42	111	
Arkansas	44	6	7	57	
California	260	11	111	382	
Colorado	22	2	52	76	
Connecticut	7	0	2	9	
Delaware	15	0	14	29	
District of Columbia	4	0	0	4	
Florida	113	7	33	153	
Georgia	140	9	54	203	
Hawaii	1	0	2	3	
Idaho	20	10	12	42	
Illinois	80	3	3	86	
Indiana	53	4	5	62	
Iowa	9	2	19	30	
Kansas	15	6	12	33	
Kentucky	59	2	11	72	
Louisiana	10	0	17	27	
Maine	4	0	1	5	
Maryland	56	5	3	64	
Massachusetts	23	NA	23	46	For 1997-98, 11 districts were unable to provide information on the number of expulsions that were referred to an alternate placement.
Minnesota	34	NA	11	45	The information shown for 1997-98 under handguns is actually handguns and rifles/shotguns combined.
Mississippi	32	14	1	47	
Missouri	18	0	161	179	For 1997-98, the reported figures may include other weapons such as knives, air guns, or brass knuckles.
Montana	12	1	4	17	
Nevada	25	0	11	36	
New Hampshire	4	1	0	5	
New Jersey	34	4	2	40	
New Mexico	16	9	7	32	
New York	45	4	42	91	The data reported for 1997-98 represent 78 percent of all LEAs. All 5 of the largest LEAs are included.

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Table 3 (cont'd)
Number of students expelled for GFSA violations, by type of firearm, 1997-98

	Type of Firearm				
State	**Handgun**	**Rifle**	**Other**	**Total**	**Data Caveats**
North Dakota	1	0	0	1	
Ohio	73	5	41	119	
Oklahoma	14	3	0	17	
Oregon	54	8	73	135	
Pennsylvania	74	9	110	193	
Rhode Island	7	3	0	10	
South Carolina	72	8	5	85	
South Dakota	5	4	40	49	Five unidentified firearms violations were not available by grade. They are included in the total by type of firearm under "other" and in the overall total but are not included in the totals by grade.
Texas	285	44	95	424	
Utah	8	1	0	9	
Vermont	3	1	1	5	Included in the 5 reported 1997-98 incidents is a case where one student brought 2 guns (a handgun and a hunting rifle). This was counted as one incident under "handgun."
Virginia	61	NA	38	99	Virginia does not differentiate between handguns and rifles.
Washington	151	24	15	190	
West Virginia	14	3	0	17	
Wisconsin	43	4	19	66	
Wyoming	0	0	0	0	
Puerto Rico	1	0	0	1	
American Samoa	0	0	0	0	
Guam	0	0	0	0	
Northern Marianas	0	0	0	0	
Virgin Islands	2	0	0	2	
Total	2,167	232	1,108	3,507	
Number of states reporting		52			
Percent of expulsions by type of weapon:		89%			

Data Notes:

Four states – Michigan, Nebraska, North Carolina, and Tennessee – were unable to provide GFSA expulsions broken out by type of firearm.

NA = Not available

Table 4
Total number of students expelled for GFSA violations, by state, 1996-97 to 1997-98

	Year				
State	**1996-97**	**1997-98**	**# Change**	**% Change**	**Data Caveats**
Alabama	91	82	-9	-10%	
Alaska	19	17	-2	-11%	
Arizona	152	111	-41	-27%	
Arkansas	62	57	-5	-8%	
California	723	382	-341	-47%	The figures reported for 1996-97 were not broken out by type of firearm.
Colorado	131	76	-55	-42%	The figure shown for 1996-97 is primarily for firearms. This figure has been revised from the data originally submitted for 1996-97 which was for ALL weapons, not just firearms.
Connecticut	19	9	-10	-53%	
Delaware	7	29	22	314%	
District of Columbia	0	4	4	–	
Florida	202	153	-49	-24%	
Georgia	244	203	-41	-17%	
Hawaii	0	3	3	–	
Idaho	33	42	9	27%	
Illinois	250	86	-164	-66%	The large shift from 1996-97 was due primarily to better reporting. Prior to 1997-98, the expulsions reported under "other firearms" included expulsions for BB guns, sling shots, and other weapons. Expulsions for handguns/rifles/shotguns dropped 25% in 1998.
Indiana	109	62	-47	-43%	
Iowa	40	30	-10	-25%	
Kansas	43	33	-10	-23%	
Kentucky	70	72	2	3%	
Louisiana	88	27	-61	-69%	
Maine	13	5	-8	-62%	
Maryland	73	64	-9	-12%	The figures reported for 1996-97 were for the number of incidents, rather than expulsions.
Massachusetts	54	46	-8	-15%	For 1997-98, 11 districts were unable to provide information on the number of expulsions that were referred to an alternate placement.
Michigan	92	99	7	8%	
Minnesota	18	45	27	150%	The information shown for 1997-98 under handguns is actually handguns and rifles/shotguns combined.
Mississippi	11	47	36	327%	The 1996-97 information was submitted for handguns only.

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Table 4 (cont'd)
Total number of students expelled for GFSA violations, by state, 1996-97 to 1997-98

	Year				
State	**1996-97**	**1997-98**	**# Change**	**% Change**	**Data Caveats**
Missouri	318	179	-139	-44%	For 1996-97, the reported figures may include other weapons such as knives, air guns, or brass knuckles. For 1997-98, this reporting problem was significantly reduced but not eliminated.
Montana	12	17	5	42%	
Nebraska	20	11	-9	-45%	The information for both 1996-97 and 1997-98 is for all firearms combined. It is not broken out by type of weapon.
Nevada	54	36	-18	-33%	
New Hampshire	15	5	-10	-67%	
New Jersey	57	40	-17	-30%	
New Mexico	71	32	-39	-55%	For 1996-97, 20 expulsions were reported separately for an unknown firearm.
New York	128	91	-37	-29%	The data for 1997-98 represent 78 percent of all LEAs and 71 percent of LEAs in 1996-97. For both years, all 5 of the largest LEAs are included.
North Carolina	138	121	-17	-12%	The figure shown for 1996-97 has been revised from the figure originally submitted for 1996-97. The data shown here are estimates.
North Dakota	1	1	0	0%	
Ohio	937	119	-818	-87	The 1996-97 figures are for expulsions for use/possession of all weapons, rather than just firearms. These figures are not comparable to the figures submitted for 1997-98.
Oklahoma	0	17	17	–	
Oregon	85	135	50	59%	
Pennsylvania	200	193	-7	-4%	
Rhode Island	7	10	3	43%	
South Carolina	94	85	-9	-10%	
South Dakota	7	49	42	600%	For 1997-98, 5 unidentified firearms violations were not available by grade. They are included in the total by type of firearm under "other" and in the overall total but are not included in the totals by grade. The large increase in expulsions from previous years is due to better data. In addition, for 1997-98, over 95% of the districts responded. This is a substantial increase from previous years.
Tennessee	98	192	94	96%	
Texas	532	424	-108	-20%	
Utah	80	9	-71	-89%	For 1996-97, some of the reported expulsions may have been for other reasons than bringing a gun to school.

Table 4 (cont'd)
Total number of students expelled for GFSA violations, by state, 1996-97 to 1997-98

	Year				
State	**1996-97**	**1997-98**	**# Change**	**% Change**	**Data Caveats**
Vermont	5	5	0	0%	Included in the 5 reported 1997-98 incidents is a case where one student brought 2 guns (a handgun and a hunting rifle). This was counted as one incident under "handgun."
Virginia	92	99	7	8%	Virginia does not differentiate between handguns and rifles.
Washington	146	190	44	30%	
West Virginia	27	17	-10	-37%	
Wisconsin	54	66	12	22%	
Wyoming	0	0	0	–	
Puerto Rico	0	1	–	–	
American Samoa	–	0	–	–	
Guam	0	0	–	–	
Northern Marianas	1	0	-1	–	
Virgin Islands	1	2	1	100%	
Total	5,724	3,930	-1,794	-31	
Number of states with data for both years:			55		

Table 5
Number and percent of expulsions for GFSA violations shortened on a case-by-case basis, 1997-98

State	Total expulsions	Total number shortened	Overall percent shortened	Data Caveats
Alabama	82	12	15%	
Alaska	17	4	24%	
Arizona	111	14	13%	
Arkansas	57	16	28%	
California	382	319	84%	
Delaware	29	0	0%	
District of Columbia	4	0	0%	
Florida	153	25	16%	
Georgia	203	31	15%	
Hawaii	3	3	100%	
Idaho	42	21	50%	
Illinois	86	7	8%	
Indiana	62	28	45%	
Iowa	30	18	60%	
Kansas	33	11	33%	
Kentucky	72	23	32%	
Louisiana	27	22	81%	
Maine	5	5	100%	
Maryland	64	37	58%	
Massachusetts	46	26	57%	For 1997-98, 11 districts were unable to provide information on the number of expulsions that were referred to an alternate placement.
Minnesota	45	29	64%	The information shown for 1997-98 under handguns is actually handguns and rifles/shotguns combined.
Missouri	179	19	11%	For 1997-98, the reported figures may include other weapons such as knives, air guns, or brass knuckles.
Montana	17	9	53%	
Nebraska	11	6	55%	
Nevada	36	0	0%	
New Hampshire	5	2	40%	
New Jersey	40	15	38%	
New Mexico	32	4	13%	
New York	91	32	35%	The data reported for 1997-98 represent 78 percent of all LEAs. All 5 of the largest LEAs are included.

Table 5 (cont'd)
Number and percent of expulsions for GFSA violations shortened on a case-by-case basis, 1997-98

State	Total expulsions	Total number shortened	Overall percent shortened	Data Caveats
North Carolina	121	43	36%	The data shown here are estimates.
North Dakota	1	0	0%	
Ohio	119	61	51%	
Oklahoma	17	6	35%	
Oregon	135	66	49%	
Pennsylvania	193	148	77%	
Rhode Island	10	10	100%	
South Carolina	85	19	22%	
South Dakota	49	43	88%	Five unidentified firearms violations were not available by grade. They are included in the total by type of firearm under "other" and in the overall total but are not included in the totals by grade.
Texas	424	176	42%	
Vermont	5	1	20%	Included in the 5 reported 1997-98 incidents is a case where one student brought 2 guns (a handgun and a hunting rifle). This was counted as one incident under "handgun."
Washington	190	163	86%	
West Virginia	17	0	0%	
Wisconsin	66	10	15%	
Wyoming	0	0	–	
Puerto Rico	1	1	100%	
American Samoa	0	0	–	
Guam	0	0	–	
Northern Marianas	0	0	–	
Virgin Islands	2	0	0%	
Total	3,399	1,485	44%	
Number of states reporting:		49		

Data notes:

The GFSA includes provisions that authorize the LEA chief administering officer to modify any GFSA expulsion on a case-by-case basis (for example by shortening the expulsion to less than one year)

Seven states – Colorado, Connecticut, Michigan, Mississippi, Tennessee, Utah, and Virginia – were unable to provide information on the number of GFSA violations shortened on a case-by-case basis.

Table 6
Number and percent of expulsions for GFSA violations shortened for non-disabled students on a case-by-case basis, 1997-98

State	Total number shortened	Number non-disabled shortened	Percentage non-disabled shortened	Data Caveats
Alabama	12	8	67%	
Arizona	14	14	100%	—
Arkansas	16	12	75%	
California	319	84	26%	
Connecticut	4	3	75%	
Delaware	0	0	–	
District of Columbia	0	0	–	
Florida	25	20	80%	
Georgia	31	19	61%	
Hawaii	3	3	100%	
Idaho	21	17	81%	
Illinois	7	3	43%	
Indiana	28	21	75%	
Iowa	18	16	89%	
Kansas	11	7	64%	
Kentucky	23	19	83%	
Maine	5	2	40%	
Maryland	37	16	43%	
Massachusetts	26	21	81%	For 1997-98, 11 districts were unable to provide information on the number of expulsions that were referred to an alternate placement.
Minnesota	29	29	100%	The information shown for 1997-98 under handguns is actually handguns and rifles/shotguns combined.
Mississippi	2	2	100%	
Missouri	19	19	100%	For 1997-98, the reported figures may include other weapons such as knives, air guns, or brass knuckles.
Montana	9	8	89%	
Nevada	0	0	–	
New Hampshire	2	1	50%	
New Jersey	15	14	93%	
New Mexico	4	4	100%	
New York	32	.20	63%	The data reported for 1997-98 represent 78 percent of all LEAs. All 5 of the largest LEAs are included.
North Carolina	43	26	60%	The data shown here are estimates.

Table 6 (cont'd)
Number and percent of expulsions for GFSA violations shortened for non-disabled students on a case-by-case basis, 1997-98

State	Total number shortened	Number non-disabled shortened	Percentage non-disabled shortened	Data Caveats
North Dakota	0	0	–	
Ohio	61	42	69%	
Oklahoma	6	5	83%	
Oregon	66	49	74%	
Pennsylvania	148	125	84%	
Rhode Island	10	5	50%	
South Carolina	19	13	68%	
South Dakota	43	19	44%	Five unidentified firearms violations were not available by grade. They are included in the total by type of firearm under "other" and in the overall total but are not included in the totals by grade.
Texas	176	114	65%	
Vermont	1	1	100%	Included in the 5 reported 1997-98 incidents is a case where one student brought 2 guns (a handgun and a hunting rifle). This was counted as one incident under "handgun."
Washington	163	124	76%	
West Virginia	0	0	0%	
Wisconsin	10	3	30%	
Wyoming	0	0	0%	
Puerto Rico	1	1	100%	
American Samoa	0	0	0%	
Guam	0	0	–	
Northern Marianas	0	0	0%	
Virgin Islands	0	0	0%	
Total	1,459	909	62%	
Number of states reporting:		48		

Data Note:

Eight states – Alaska, Colorado, Louisiana, Michigan, Nebraska, Tennessee, Utah, and Virginia – were unable to provide information on the number of GFSA violations that were shortened for non-disabled students.

Table 7
Percentage of students expelled for GFSA violations referred to an alternate placement by state, 1997-98

State	Total expulsions	Referred	Percent referred	Data Caveats
Alabama	82	20	24%	
Alaska	17	4	24%	
Arizona	111	61	55%	
Arkansas	57	17	30%	
California	382	81	21%	
Connecticut	9	8	89%	
Delaware	29	6	21%	
District of Columbia	4	0	0%	
Florida	153	104	68%	
Georgia	203	88	43%	
Hawaii	3	1	33%	
Idaho	42	6	14%	
Illinois	86	65	76%	
Indiana	62	9	15%	
Iowa	30	12	40%	
Kansas	33	9	27%	
Kentucky	72	28	39%	
Maine	5	2	40%	
Maryland	64	52	81%	
Massachusetts	46	25	54%	For 1997-98, 11 districts were unable to provide information on the number of expulsions that were referred to an alternate placement.
Minnesota	45	13	29%	The information shown for 1997-98 under handguns is actually handguns and rifles/shotguns combined.
Mississippi	47	6	13%	
Missouri	179	13	7%	For 1997-98, the reported figures may include other weapons such as knives, air guns, or brass knuckles.
Montana	17	3	18%	
Nebraska	11	10	91%	
Nevada	36	31	86%	
New Hampshire	5	1	20%	
New Jersey	40	29	73%	
New Mexico	32	5	16%	
New York	91	22	24%	The data reported for 1997-98 represent 78 percent of all LEAs. All 5 of the largest LEAs are included.
North Carolina	121	17	14%	The data shown here are estimates.

Table 7 (cont'd)
Percentage of students expelled for GFSA violations referred to an alternate placement by state, 1997-98

State	Total expulsions	Referred	Percent referred	Data Caveats
North Dakota	1	0	0%	
Ohio	119	31	26%	
Oklahoma	17	5	29%	
Oregon	135	56	56%	
Pennsylvania	193	41	21%	
Rhode Island	10	1	10%	
South Carolina	85	27	32%	
South Dakota	49	18	37%	Five unidentified firearms violations were not available by grade. They are included in the total by type of firearm under "other" and in the overall total but are not included in the totals by grade.
Texas	424	333	79%	
Washington	190	171	90%	
West Virginia	17	0	0%	
Wyoming	0	0	–	
Puerto Rico	1	0	0%	
American Samoa	0	0	–	
Guam	0	0	–	
Northern Marianas	0	0	–	
Virgin Islands	2	2	100%	
Total	3,357	1,433	43%	
Number of states reporting		48		

Data Notes:

The GFSA has provisions in place that allow local officials to refer expelled students to an alternative school or program.

Eight states – Colorado, Louisiana, Michigan, Tennessee, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, and Wisconsin – were unable to provide information on the number of GFSA violations that were referred to an alternate placement.

Gun-Free Schools Act (GFSA)
Alabama

1997-98 Data

Question 1. Number of students expelled under state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

School Level	Handguns	Rifles/ Shotguns	Other Firearms	Total
Elementary	2	1	1	4
Junior High	25	0	1	26
Senior High	42	5	5	52
Total	69	6	7	82

Question:		Number	Percent
2.	Number of shortened expulsions	12	15%
3.	Number in #2 (above) that were not disabled	8	67%
4.	Number of expulsions (in #1) referred to an alternative program	20	24%

Year-to-Year Data Comparison – 1996-97 to 1997-98

	1996-97	1997-98
Total number of expulsions	91	82
Change (1996-97 to 1997-98)		-9
Percent Change		-10%

★ **Caveats or notes on the data collection instrument:** None.

Gun-Free Schools Act (GFSA)

Alaska

1997-98 Data

Question 1. Number of students expelled under state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

School Level	Handguns	Rifles/ Shotguns	Other Firearms	Total
Elementary	0	0	0	0
Junior High	1	3	1	5
Senior High	9	2	1	12
Total	10	5	2	17

Question:		Number	Percent
2.	Number of shortened expulsions	4	24%
3.	Number in #2 (above) that were not disabled	NA	
4.	Number of expulsions (in #1) referred to an alternative program	4	24%

Year-to-Year Data Comparison – 1996-97 to 1997-98

	1996-97	1997-98
Total number of expulsions	19	17
Change (1996-97 to 1997-98)		-2
Percent Change		-11%

★ **Caveats or notes on the data collection instrument:** None.

Note: NA = not available.

Gun-Free Schools Act (GFSA)
Arizona

1997-98 Data

Question 1. Number of students expelled under state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

School Level	Handguns	Rifles/ Shotguns	Other Firearms	Total
Elementary	12	0	9	21
Junior High	23	0	26	49
Senior High	30	4	7	41
Total	65	4	42	111

Question:		Number	Percent
2.	Number of shortened expulsions	14	13%
3.	Number in #2 (above) that were not disabled	14	100%
4.	Number of expulsions (in #1) referred to an alternative program	61	55%

Year-to-Year Data Comparison – 1996-97 to 1997-98

	1996-97	1997-98
Total number of expulsions	152	111
Change (1996-97 to 1997-98)		-41
Percent Change		-27%

★ **Caveats or notes on the data collection instrument:** None.

Gun-Free Schools Act (GFSA)
Arkansas

1997-98 Data

Question 1. Number of students expelled under state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

School Level	Handguns	Rifles/ Shotguns	Other Firearms	Total
Elementary	1	0	3	4
Junior High	20	1	1	22
Senior High	23	5	3	31
Total	44	6	7	57

Question:		Number	Percent
2.	Number of shortened expulsions	16	28%
3.	Number in #2 (above) that were not disabled	12	75%
4.	Number of expulsions (in #1) referred to an alternative program	17	30%

Year-to-Year Data Comparison – 1996-97 to 1997-98

	1996-97	1997-98
Total number of expulsions	62	57
Change (1996-97 to 1997-98)		-5
Percent Change		-8%

★ **Caveats or notes on the data collection instrument:** None.

Gun-Free Schools Act (GFSA)
California

1997-98 Data

Question 1. Number of students expelled under state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

School Level	Handguns	Rifles/ Shotguns	Other Firearms	Total
Elementary	20	0	11	31
Junior High	71	0	45	116
Senior High	169	11	55	235
Total	260	11	111	382

Question:		Number	Percent
2.	Number of shortened expulsions	319	84%
3.	Number in #2 (above) that were not disabled	84	26%
4.	Number of expulsions (in #1) referred to an alternative program	81	21%

Year-to-Year Data Comparison – 1996-97 to 1997-98

	1996-97	1997-98
Total number of expulsions	723	382
Change (1996-97 to 1997-98)		-341
Percent Change		-47%

★ **Caveats or notes on the data collection instrument:** The figures reported for 1996-97 were not broken out by type of weapon.

Gun-Free Schools Act (GFSA)
Colorado

1997-98 Data

Question 1. Number of students expelled under state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

School Level	Handguns	Rifles/ Shotguns	Other Firearms	Total
Elementary	2	0	7	9
Junior High	6	0	24	30
Senior High	14	2	21	37
Total	22	2	52	76

Question:		Number	Percent
2.	Number of shortened expulsions	NA	
3.	Number in #2 (above) that were not disabled	NA	
4.	Number of expulsions (in #1) referred to an alternative program	NA	

Year-to-Year Data Comparison – 1996-97 to 1997-98

	1996-97	1997-98
Total number of expulsions	131	76
Change (1996-97 to 1997-98)		-55
Percent Change		-42%

★ **Caveats or notes on the data collection instrument:** The figure shown for 1996-97 is primarily for firearms. This figure has been revised from the data originally submitted for 1996-97 which was for ALL weapons, not just firearms.

Note: NA = not available.

Gun-Free Schools Act (GFSA)
Connecticut

1997-98 Data

Question 1. Number of students expelled under state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

School Level	Handguns	Rifles/ Shotguns	Other Firearms	Total
Elementary	2	0	0	2
Junior High	3	0	0	3
Senior High	2	0	2	4
Total	7	0	2	9

Question:		Number	Percent
2.	Number of shortened expulsions	4	44%
3.	Number in #2 (above) that were not disabled	3	75%
4.	Number of expulsions (in #1) referred to an alternative program	8	89%

Year-to-Year Data Comparison – 1996-97 to 1997-98

	1996-97	1997-98
Total number of expulsions	19	9
Change (1996-97 to 1997-98)		-10
Percent Change		-53%

★ **Caveats or notes on the data collection instrument:** None.

Gun-Free Schools Act (GFSA)
Delaware

1997-98 Data

Question 1. Number of students expelled under state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

School Level	Handguns	Rifles/ Shotguns	Other Firearms	Total
Elementary	7	0	6	13
Junior High	2	0	2	4
Senior High	6	0	6	12
Total	15	0	14	29

Question:		Number	Percent
2.	Number of shortened expulsions	0	0%
3.	Number in #2 (above) that were not disabled	0	0%
4.	Number of expulsions (in #1) referred to an alternative program	6	21%

Year-to-Year Data Comparison – 1996-97 to 1997-98

	1996-97	1997-98
Total number of expulsions	7	29
Change (1996-97 to 1997-98)		22
Percent Change		314%

★ **Caveats or notes on the data collection instrument:** None.

Gun-Free Schools Act (GFSA)
District of Columbia

1997-98 Data

Question 1. Number of students expelled under state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

School Level	Handguns	Rifles/ Shotguns	Other Firearms	Total
Elementary	0	0	0	0
Junior High	1	0	0	1
Senior High	3	0	0	3
Total	4	0	0	4

Question:		Number	Percent
2.	Number of shortened expulsions	0	0%
3.	Number in #2 (above) that were not disabled	0	0%
4.	Number of expulsions (in #1) referred to an alternative program	0	0%

Year-to-Year Data Comparison – 1996-97 to 1997-98

	1996-97	1997-98
Total number of expulsions	0	4
Change (1996-97 to 1997-98)		4
Percent Change		--

★ **Caveats or notes on the data collection instrument:** None.

Gun-Free Schools Act (GFSA)
Florida

1997-98 Data

Question 1. Number of students expelled under state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

School Level	Handguns	Rifles/ Shotguns	Other Firearms	Total
Elementary	4	0	1	5
Junior High	32	1	10	43
Senior High	77	6	22	105
Total	113	7	33	153

Question:		Number	Percent
2.	Number of shortened expulsions	25	16%
3.	Number in #2 (above) that were not disabled	20	80%
4.	Number of expulsions (in #1) referred to an alternative program	104	68%

Year-to-Year Data Comparison – 1996-97 to 1997-98

	1996-97	1997-98
Total number of expulsions	202	153
Change (1996-97 to 1997-98)		-49
Percent Change		-24%

★ **Caveats or notes on the data collection instrument:** None.

Gun-Free Schools Act (GFSA)
Georgia

1997-98 Data

Question 1. Number of students expelled under state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

School Level	Handguns	Rifles/ Shotguns	Other Firearms	Total
Elementary	8	0	4	12
Junior High	56	0	28	84
Senior High	76	9	22	107
Total	140	9	54	203

Question:		Number	Percent
2.	Number of shortened expulsions	31	15%
3.	Number in #2 (above) that were not disabled	19	61%
4.	Number of expulsions (in #1) referred to an alternative program	88	43%

Year-to-Year Data Comparison – 1996-97 to 1997-98

	1996-97	1997-98
Total number of expulsions	244	203
Change (1996-97 to 1997-98)		-41
Percent Change		-17%

★ **Caveats or notes on the data collection instrument:** None.

Gun-Free Schools Act (GFSA)
Hawaii

1997-98 Data

Question 1. Number of students expelled under state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

School Level	Handguns	Rifles/ Shotguns	Other Firearms	Total
Elementary	0	0	0	0
Junior High	1	0	2	3
Senior High	0	0	0	0
Total	1	0	2	3

Question:		Number	Percent
2.	Number of shortened expulsions	3	100%
3.	Number in #2 (above) that were not disabled	3	100%
4.	Number of expulsions (in #1) referred to an alternative program	1	33%

Year-to-Year Data Comparison – 1996-97 to 1997-98

	1996-97	1997-98
Total number of expulsions	0	3
Change (1996-97 to 1997-98)		3
Percent Change		--

★ **Caveats or notes on the data collection instrument:** None.

Gun-Free Schools Act (GFSA)
Idaho

1997-98 Data

Question 1. Number of students expelled under state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

School Level	Handguns	Rifles/ Shotguns	Other Firearms	Total
Elementary	4	0	0	4
Junior High	5	0	8	13
Senior High	11	10	4	25
Total	20	10	12	42

Question:		Number	Percent
2.	Number of shortened expulsions	21	50%
3.	Number in #2 (above) that were not disabled	17	81%
4.	Number of expulsions (in #1) referred to an alternative program	6	14%

Year-to-Year Data Comparison – 1996-97 to 1997-98

	1996-97	1997-98
Total number of expulsions	33	42
Change (1996-97 to 1997-98)		9
Percent Change		27%

★ **Caveats or notes on the data collection instrument:** None.

Gun-Free Schools Act (GFSA)
Illinois

1997-98 Data

Question 1. Number of students expelled under state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

School Level	Handguns	Rifles/ Shotguns	Other Firearms	Total
Elementary	5	1	0	6
Junior High	30	0	1	31
Senior High	45	2	2	49
Total	80	3	3	86

Question:		Number	Percent
2.	Number of shortened expulsions	7	8%
3.	Number in #2 (above) that were not disabled	3	43%
4.	Number of expulsions (in #1) referred to an altemative program	65	76%

Year-to-Year Data Comparison – 1996-97 to 1997-98

	1996-97	1997-98
Total number of expulsions	250	86
Change (1996-97 to 1997-98)		-164
Percent Change		-66%

★ **Caveats or notes on the data collection instrument:** The large shift from 1996-97 was due primarily to better reporting. Prior to 1997-98, the expulsions reported under "other firearms" included expulsions for BB guns, sling shots, and other weapons. Expulsions for handguns/rifles/shotguns dropped 25% in 1998.

Gun-Free Schools Act (GFSA)
Indiana

1997-98 Data

Question 1. Number of students expelled under state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

School Level	Handguns	Rifles/ Shotguns	Other Firearms	Total
Elementary	4	0	2	6
Junior High	14	2	0	16
Senior High	35	2	3	40
Total	53	4	5	62

Question:		Number	Percent
2.	Number of shortened expulsions	28	45%
3.	Number in #2 (above) that were not disabled	21	75%
4.	Number of expulsions (in #1) referred to an alternative program	9	15%

Year-to-Year Data Comparison – 1996-97 to 1997-98

	1996-97	1997-98
Total number of expulsions	109	62
Change (1996-97 to 1997-98)		-47
Percent Change		-43%

★ **Caveats or notes on the data collection instrument:** None.

Gun-Free Schools Act (GFSA)
Iowa

1997-98 Data

Question 1. Number of students expelled under state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

School Level	Handguns	Rifles/ Shotguns	Other Firearms	Total
Elementary	0	0	4	4
Junior High	2	0	4	6
Senior High	7	2	11	20
Total	9	2	19	30

Question:		Number	Percent
2.	Number of shortened expulsions	18	60%
3.	Number in #2 (above) that were not disabled	16	89%
4.	Number of expulsions (in #1) referred to an alternative program	12	40%

Year-to-Year Data Comparison – 1996-97 to 1997-98

	1996-97	1997-98
Total number of expulsions	40	30
Change (1996-97 to 1997-98)		-10
Percent Change		-25%

★ **Caveats or notes on the data collection instrument:** None.

Gun-Free Schools Act (GFSA)
Kansas

1997-98 Data

Question 1. Number of students expelled under state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

School Level	Handguns	Rifles/ Shotguns	Other Firearms	Total
Elementary	2	0	1	3
Junior High	6	0	4	10
Senior High	7	6	7	20
Total	15	6	12	33

Question:		Number	Percent
2.	Number of shortened expulsions	11	33%
3.	Number in #2 (above) that were not disabled	7	64%
4.	Number of expulsions (in #1) referred to an alternative program	9	27%

Year-to-Year Data Comparison – 1996-97 to 1997-98

	1996-97	1997-98
Total number of expulsions	43	33
Change (1996-97 to 1997-98)		-10
Percent Change		-23%

★ **Caveats or notes on the data collection instrument:** None.

Gun-Free Schools Act (GFSA)
Kentucky

1997-98 Data

Question 1. Number of students expelled under state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

School Level	Handguns	Rifles/ Shotguns	Other Firearms	Total
Elementary	4	0	1	5
Junior High	26	0	5	31
Senior High	29	2	5	36
Total	59	2	11	72

Question:		Number	Percent
2.	Number of shortened expulsions	23	32%
3.	Number in #2 (above) that were not disabled	19	83%
4.	Number of expulsions (in #1) referred to an alternative program	28	39%

Year-to-Year Data Comparison – 1996-97 to 1997-98

	1996-97	1997-98
Total number of expulsions	70	72
Change (1996-97 to 1997-98)		2
Percent Change		3%

★ **Caveats or notes on the data collection instrument:** None.

Gun-Free Schools Act (GFSA)
Louisiana

1997-98 Data

Question 1. Number of students expelled under state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

School Level	Handguns	Rifles/ Shotguns	Other Firearms	Total
Elementary	0	0	3	3
Junior High	3	0	7	10
Senior High	7	0	7	14
Total	10	0	17	27

Question:		Number	Percent
2.	Number of shortened expulsions	22	81%
3.	Number in #2 (above) that were not disabled	NA	
4.	Number of expulsions (in #1) referred to an alternative program	NA	

Year-to-Year Data Comparison – 1996-97 to 1997-98

	1996-97	1997-98
Total number of expulsions	88	27
Change (1996-97 to 1997-98)		-61
Percent Change		-69%

★ **Caveats or notes on the data collection instrument:** None.

Note: NA = not available.

Gun-Free Schools Act (GFSA)
Maine

1997-98 Data

Question 1. Number of students expelled under state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

School Level	Handguns	Rifles/ Shotguns	Other Firearms	Total
Elementary	2	0	0	2
Junior High	1	0	1	2
Senior High	1	0	0	1
Total	4	0	1	5

Question:		Number	Percent
2.	Number of shortened expulsions	5	100%
3.	Number in #2 (above) that were not disabled	2	40%
4.	Number of expulsions (in #1) referred to an alternative program	2	40%

Year-to-Year Data Comparison – 1996-97 to 1997-98

	1996-97	1997-98
Total number of expulsions	13	5
Change (1996-97 to 1997-98)		-8
Percent Change		-62%

★ **Caveats or notes on the data collection instrument:** None.

Gun-Free Schools Act (GFSA)
Maryland

1997-98 Data

Question 1. Number of students expelled under state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

School Level	Handguns	Rifles/ Shotguns	Other Firearms	Total
Elementary	2	0	0	2
Junior High	25	1	3	29
Senior High	29	4	0	33
Total	56	5	3	64

Question:		Number	Percent
2.	Number of shortened expulsions	37	58%
3.	Number in #2 (above) that were not disabled	16	43%
4.	Number of expulsions (in #1) referred to an alternative program	52	81%

Year-to-Year Data Comparison – 1996-97 to 1997-98

	1996-97	1997-98
Total number of expulsions	73	64
Change (1996-97 to 1997-98)		-9
Percent Change		-12%

★ **Caveats or notes on the data collection instrument:** The figures reported for 1996-97 were for the number of incidents, rather than expulsions.

Gun-Free Schools Act (GFSA)
Massachusetts

1997-98 Data

Question 1. Number of students expelled under state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

School Level	Handguns	Rifles/ Shotguns	Other Firearms	Total
Elementary	0	NA	1	1
Junior High	9	NA	5	14
Senior High	14	NA	17	31
Total	23	NA	23	46

Question:		Number	Percent
2.	Number of shortened expulsions	26	57%
3.	Number in #2 (above) that were not disabled	21	81%
4.	Number of expulsions (in #1) referred to an alternative program	25	54%

Year-to-Year Data Comparison – 1996-97 to 1997-98

	1996-97	1997-98
Total number of expulsions	54	46
Change (1996-97 to 1997-98)		-8
Percent Change		-15%

★ **Caveats or notes on the data collection instrument:** For 1997-98, 11 districts were unable to provide information on the number of expulsions that were referred to an alternate placement.

Note: NA = not available.

Gun-Free Schools Act (GFSA)
Michigan

1997-98 Data

Question 1. Number of students expelled under state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

School Level	Handguns	Rifles/ Shotguns	Other Firearms	Total
Elementary	NA	NA	NA	NA
Junior High	NA	NA	NA	NA
Senior High	NA	NA	NA	NA
Total	NA	NA	NA	99

Question:		Number	Percent
2.	Number of shortened expulsions	NA	
3.	Number in #2 (above) that were not disabled	NA	
4.	Number of expulsions (in #1) referred to an alternative program	NA	

Year-to-Year Data Comparison – 1996-97 to 1997-98

	1996-97	1997-98
Total number of expulsions	92	99
Change (1996-97 to 1997-98)		7
Percent Change		8%

★ **Caveats or notes on the data collection instrument:** Information for both 1996-97 and 1997-98 was submitted as a cummulative total only. It was not broken out by type of weapon or school level.

Note: NA = not available.

Gun-Free Schools Act (GFSA)
Minnesota

1997-98 Data

Question 1. Number of students expelled under state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

School Level	Handguns	Rifles/ Shotguns	Other Firearms	Total
Elementary	1	NA	1	2
Junior High	14	NA	9	23
Senior High	19	NA	1	20
Total	34	NA	11	45

Question:		Number	Percent
2.	Number of shortened expulsions	29	64%
3.	Number in #2 (above) that were not disabled	29	100%
4.	Number of expulsions (in #1) referred to an alternative program	13	29%

Year-to-Year Data Comparison – 1996-97 to 1997-98

	1996-97	1997-98
Total number of expulsions	18	45
Change (1996-97 to 1997-98)		27
Percent Change		150%

★ **Caveats or notes on the data collection instrument:** The information shown for 1997-98 under handguns is actually handguns and rifles/shotguns combined.

Note: NA = not available.

Gun-Free Schools Act (GFSA)
Mississippi

1997-98 Data

Question 1. Number of students expelled under state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

School Level	Handguns	Rifles/ Shotguns	Other Firearms	Total
Elementary	2	0	0	2
Junior High	10	6	0	16
Senior High	20	8	1	29
Total	32	14	1	47

Question:		Number	Percent
2.	Number of shortened expulsions	2	4%
3.	Number in #2 (above) that were not disabled	2	100%
4.	Number of expulsions (in #1) referred to an alternative program	6	13%

Year-to-Year Data Comparison – 1996-97 to 1997-98

	1996-97	1997-98
Total number of expulsions	11	47
Change (1996-97 to 1997-98)		36
Percent Change		327%

★ **Caveats or notes on the data collection instrument:** The 1996-97 information was submitted for handguns only.

Gun-Free Schools Act (GFSA)
Missouri

1997-98 Data

Question 1. Number of students expelled under state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

School Level	Handguns	Rifles/ Shotguns	Other Firearms	Total
Elementary	1	0	25	26
Junior High	1	0	64	65
Senior High	16	0	72	88
Total	18	0	161	179

Question:		Number	Percent
2.	Number of shortened expulsions	19	11%
3.	Number in #2 (above) that were not disabled	19	100%
4.	Number of expulsions (in #1) referred to an alternative program	13	7%

Year-to-Year Data Comparison – 1996-97 to 1997-98

	1996-97	1997-98
Total number of expulsions	318	179
Change (1996-97 to 1997-98)		-139
Percent Change		-44%

★ **Caveats or notes on the data collection instrument:** For 1996-97, the reported figures may include other weapons such as knives, air guns, or brass knuckles. For 1997-98, this reporting problem was significantly reduced but not eliminated.

Gun-Free Schools Act (GFSA)
Montana

1997-98 Data

Question 1. Number of students expelled under state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

School Level	Handguns	Rifles/ Shotguns	Other Firearms	Total
Elementary	3	0	0	3
Junior High	3	0	2	5
Senior High	6	1	2	9
Total	12	1	4	17

Question:		Number	Percent
2.	Number of shortened expulsions	9	53%
3.	Number in #2 (above) that were not disabled	8	89%
4.	Number of expulsions (in #1) referred to an alternative program	3	18%

Year-to-Year Data Comparison – 1996-97 to 1997-98

	1996-97	1997-98
Total number of expulsions	12	17
Change (1996-97 to 1997-98)		5
Percent Change		42%

★ **Caveats or notes on the data collection instrument:** None.

Gun-Free Schools Act (GFSA)
Nebraska

1997-98 Data

Question 1. Number of students expelled under state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

School Level	Handguns	Rifles/ Shotguns	Other Firearms	Total
Elementary	NA	NA	NA	2
Junior High	NA	NA	NA	1
Senior High	NA	NA	NA	8
Total	NA	NA	NA	11

Question:		Number	Percent
2.	Number of shortened expulsions	6	55%
3.	Number in #2 (above) that were not disabled	NA	
4.	Number of expulsions (in #1) referred to an alternative program	10	91%

Year-to-Year Data Comparison – 1996-97 to 1997-98

	1996-97	1997-98
Total number of expulsions	20	11
Change (1996-97 to 1997-98)		-9
Percent Change		-45%

★ **Caveats or notes on the data collection instrument:** The information for both 1996-97 and 1997-98 is for all firearms combined. It is not broken out by type of weapon.

Note: NA = not available.

Gun-Free Schools Act (GFSA)
Nevada

1997-98 Data

Question 1. Number of students expelled under state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

School Level	Handguns	Rifles/ Shotguns	Other Firearms	Total
Elementary	1	0	0	1
Junior High	12	0	4	16
Senior High	12	0	7	19
Total	25	0	11	36

Question:		Number	Percent
2.	Number of shortened expulsions	0	0%
3.	Number in #2 (above) that were not disabled	0	0%
4.	Number of expulsions (in #1) referred to an alternative program	31	86%

Year-to-Year Data Comparison – 1996-97 to 1997-98

	1996-97	1997-98
Total number of expulsions	54	36
Change (1996-97 to 1997-98)		-18
Percent Change		-33%

★ **Caveats or notes on the data collection instrument:** None.

Gun-Free Schools Act (GFSA)
New Hampshire

1997-98 Data

Question 1. Number of students expelled under state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

School Level	Handguns	Rifles/ Shotguns	Other Firearms	Total
Elementary	0	0	0	0
Junior High	1	0	0	1
Senior High	3	1	0	4
Total	4	1	0	5

Question:		Number	Percent
2.	Number of shortened expulsions	2	40%
3.	Number in #2 (above) that were <u>not</u> disabled	1	50%
4.	Number of expulsions (in #1) referred to an alternative program	1	20%

Year-to-Year Data Comparison – 1996-97 to 1997-98

	1996-97	1997-98
Total number of expulsions	15	5
Change (1996-97 to 1997-98)		-10
Percent Change		-67%

★ **Caveats or notes on the data collection instrument:** None.

Gun-Free Schools Act (GFSA)
New Jersey

1997-98 Data

Question 1. Number of students expelled under state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

School Level	Handguns	Rifles/ Shotguns	Other Firearms	Total
Elementary	2	1	0	3
Junior High	13	1	1	15
Senior High	19	2	1	22
Total	34	4	2	40

Question:		Number	Percent
2.	Number of shortened expulsions	15	38%
3.	Number in #2 (above) that were not disabled	14	93%
4.	Number of expulsions (in #1) referred to an alternative program	29	73%

Year-to-Year Data Comparison – 1996-97 to 1997-98

	1996-97	1997-98
Total number of expulsions	57	40
Change (1996-97 to 1997-98)		-17
Percent Change		-30%

★ **Caveats or notes on the data collection instrument:** None.

Gun-Free Schools Act (GFSA)
New Mexico

1997-98 Data

Question 1. Number of students expelled under state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

School Level	Handguns	Rifles/ Shotguns	Other Firearms	Total
Elementary	2	0	1	3
Junior High	5	0	2	7
Senior High	9	9	4	22
Total	16	9	7	32

Question:		Number	Percent
2.	Number of shortened expulsions	4	13%
3.	Number in #2 (above) that were not disabled	4	100%
4.	Number of expulsions (in #1) referred to an alternative program	5	16%

Year-to-Year Data Comparison – 1996-97 to 1997-98

	1996-97	1997-98
Total number of expulsions	71	32
Change (1996-97 to 1997-98)		-39
Percent Change		-55%

★ **Caveats or notes on the data collection instrument:** For 1996-97, 20 expulsions were reported separately for an unknown firearm.

Gun-Free Schools Act (GFSA)
New York

1997-98 Data

Question 1. Number of students expelled under state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

School Level	Handguns	Rifles/ Shotguns	Other Firearms	Total
Elementary	0	0	1	1
Junior High	17	1	17	35
Senior High	28	3	24	55
Total	45	4	42	91

Question:		Number	Percent
2.	Number of shortened expulsions	32	35%
3.	Number in #2 (above) that were not disabled	20	63%
4.	Number of expulsions (in #1) referred to an alternative program	22	24%

Year-to-Year Data Comparison – 1996-97 to 1997-98

	1996-97	1997-98
Total number of expulsions	128	91
Change (1996-97 to 1997-98)		-37
Percent Change		-29%

★ **Caveats or notes on the data collection instrument:** Data for 1997-98 represent 78 percent of all LEAs and 71 percent of LEAs in 1996-97. For both years, all 5 of the largest LEAs are included.

Gun-Free Schools Act (GFSA)
North Carolina

1997-98 Data

Question 1. Number of students expelled under state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

School Level	Handguns	Rifles/ Shotguns	Other Firearms	Total
Elementary	NA	NA	NA	7
Junior High	NA	NA	NA	43
Senior High	NA	NA	NA	71
Total	NA	NA	NA	121

Question:		Number	Percent
2.	Number of shortened expulsions	43	36%
3.	Number in #2 (above) that were not disabled	26	60%
4.	Number of expulsions (in #1) referred to an alternative program	17	14%

Year-to-Year Data Comparison – 1996-97 to 1997-98

	1996-97	1997-98
Total number of expulsions	138	121
Change (1996-97 to 1997-98)		-17
Percent Change		-12%

★ **Caveats or notes on the data collection instrument:** The figure shown for 1996-97 has been revised from the figure originally submitted for that year. For both 1996-97 and 1997-98, the information submitted was broken out by school level, not by type of weapon. All data shown here are estimates.

Note: NA = not available.

Gun-Free Schools Act (GFSA)
North Dakota

1997-98 Data

Question 1. Number of students expelled under state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

School Level	Handguns	Rifles/ Shotguns	Other Firearms	Total
Elementary	0	0	0	0
Junior High	1	0	0	1
Senior High	0	0	0	0
Total	1	0	0	1

Question:		Number	Percent
2.	Number of shortened expulsions	0	0%
3.	Number in #2 (above) that were not disabled	0	0%
4.	Number of expulsions (in #1) referred to an alternative program	0	0%

Year-to-Year Data Comparison – 1996-97 to 1997-98

	1996-97	1997-98
Total number of expulsions	1	1
Change (1996-97 to 1997-98)		0
Percent Change		0%

★ **Caveats or notes on the data collection instrument:** None.

Gun-Free Schools Act (GFSA)
Ohio

1997-98 Data

Question 1. Number of students expelled under state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

School Level	Handguns	Rifles/ Shotguns	Other Firearms	Total
Elementary	7	0	6	13
Junior High	17	0	19	36
Senior High	49	5	16	70
Total	73	5	41	119

Question:		Number	Percent
2.	Number of shortened expulsions	61	51%
3.	Number in #2 (above) that were not disabled	42	69%
4.	Number of expulsions (in #1) referred to an alternative program	31	26%

Year-to-Year Data Comparison – 1996-97 to 1997-98

	1996-97	1997-98
Total number of expulsions	937	119
Change (1996-97 to 1997-98)		-818
Percent Change		-87%

★ **Caveats or notes on the data collection instrument:** The 1996-97 figures are for expulsions for use/possession of all weapons, rather than just firearms. These figures are not comparable to the figures submitted for 1997-98.

Gun-Free Schools Act (GFSA)
Oklahoma

1997-98 Data

Question 1. Number of students expelled under state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

School Level	Handguns	Rifles/ Shotguns	Other Firearms	Total
Elementary	0	0	0	0
Junior High	2	0	0	2
Senior High	12	3	0	15
Total	14	3	0	17

Question:		Number	Percent
2.	Number of shortened expulsions	6	35%
3.	Number in #2 (above) that were not disabled	5	83%
4.	Number of expulsions (in #1) referred to an alternative program	5	29%

Year-to-Year Data Comparison – 1996-97 to 1997-98

	1996-97	1997-98
Total number of expulsions	0	17
Change (1996-97 to 1997-98)		17
Percent Change		--

★ **Caveats or notes on the data collection instrument:** None.

Gun-Free Schools Act (GFSA)
Oregon

1997-98 Data

Question 1. Number of students expelled under state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

School Level	Handguns	Rifles/ Shotguns	Other Firearms	Total
Elementary	NA	NA	NA	NA
Junior High	NA	NA	NA	NA
Senior High	NA	NA	NA	NA
Total	57	10	69	136

Question:		Number	Percent
2.	Number of shortened expulsions	78	57%
3.	Number in #2 (above) that were not disabled	56	72%
4.	Number of expulsions (in #1) referred to an alternative program	76	56%

Year-to-Year Data Comparison – 1996-97 to 1997-98

	1996-97	1997-98
Total number of expulsions	85	136
Change (1996-97 to 1997-98)		51
Percent Change		60%

★ **Caveats or notes on the data collection instrument:** For both 1996-97 and 1997-98, the information was submitted by type of weapon by not by school level.

In 1996-97 not all districts reported data under the GFSA, whereas almost all districts reported in 1997-98. Changes between 1996-97 and 1997-98 may be due to this increased level of reporting.

Note: NA = not available.

Gun-Free Schools Act (GFSA)
Pennsylvania

1997-98 Data

Question 1. Number of students expelled under state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

School Level	Handguns	Rifles/ Shotguns	Other Firearms	Total
Elementary	15	1	34	50
Junior High	9	5	27	41
Senior High	50	3	49	102
Total	74	9	110	193

Question:		Number	Percent
2.	Number of shortened expulsions	148	77%
3.	Number in #2 (above) that were not disabled	125	84%
4.	Number of expulsions (in #1) referred to an alternative program	41	21%

Year-to-Year Data Comparison – 1996-97 to 1997-98

	1996-97	1997-98
Total number of expulsions	200	193
Change (1996-97 to 1997-98)		-7
Percent Change		-4%

★ **Caveats or notes on the data collection instrument:** None.

Gun-Free Schools Act (GFSA)
Rhode Island

1997-98 Data

Question 1. Number of students expelled under state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

School Level	Handguns	Rifles/ Shotguns	Other Firearms	Total
Elementary	0	2	0	2
Junior High	7	0	0	7
Senior High	0	1	0	1
Total	7	3	0	10

Question:		Number	Percent
2.	Number of shortened expulsions	10	100%
3.	Number in #2 (above) that were <u>not</u> disabled	5	50%
4.	Number of expulsions (in #1) referred to an alternative program	1	10%

Year-to-Year Data Comparison – 1996-97 to 1997-98

	1996-97	1997-98
Total number of expulsions	7	10
Change (1996-97 to 1997-98)		3
Percent Change		43%

★ **Caveats or notes on the data collection instrument:** None.

Gun-Free Schools Act (GFSA)
South Carolina

1997-98 Data

Question 1. Number of students expelled under state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

School Level	Handguns	Rifles/ Shotguns	Other Firearms	Total
Elementary	3	0	1	4
Junior High	31	0	1	32
Senior High	38	8	3	49
Total	72	8	5	85

Question:		Number	Percent
2.	Number of shortened expulsions	19	22%
3.	Number in #2 (above) that were not disabled	13	68%
4.	Number of expulsions (in #1) referred to an alternative program	27	32%

Year-to-Year Data Comparison – 1996-97 to 1997-98

	1996-97	1997-98
Total number of expulsions	94	85
Change (1996-97 to 1997-98)		-9
Percent Change		-10%

★ **Caveats or notes on the data collection instrument:** None.

Gun-Free Schools Act (GFSA)
South Dakota

1997-98 Data

Question 1. Number of students expelled under state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

School Level	Handguns	Rifles/ Shotguns	Other Firearms	Total
Elementary	2	0	5	7
Junior High	1	0	1	2
Senior High	2	4	29	35
Total	5	4	40	49

Question:		Number	Percent
2.	Number of shortened expulsions	43	88%
3.	Number in #2 (above) that were not disabled	19	44%
4.	Number of expulsions (in #1) referred to an alternative program	18	37%

Year-to-Year Data Comparison – 1996-97 to 1997-98

	1996-97	1997-98
Total number of expulsions	7	49
Change (1996-97 to 1997-98)		42
Percent Change		600%

Caveats or notes on the data collection instrument: For 1997-98, 5 unidentified firearms violations were not available by grade. These are reflected in the total for "other firarms and in the overall total but are not reflected in the by-grade totals.

The large increase in expulsions from previous years is due to better data. In addition, for 1997-98, over 95% of the districts responded. This is a substantial increase from previous years.

Gun-Free Schools Act (GFSA)
Tennessee

1997-98 Data

Question 1. Number of students expelled under state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

School Level	Handguns	Rifles/ Shotguns	Other Firearms	Total
Elementary	NA	NA	NA	NA
Junior High	NA	NA	NA	NA
Senior High	NA	NA	NA	NA
Total	NA	NA	NA	192

Question:		Number	Percent
2.	Number of shortened expulsions	NA	
3.	Number in #2 (above) that were not disabled	NA	
4.	Number of expulsions (in #1) referred to an alternative program	NA	

Year-to-Year Data Comparison – 1996-97 to 1997-98

	1996-97	1997-98
Total number of expulsions	98	192
Change (1996-97 to 1997-98)		94
Percent Change		96%

★ **Caveats or notes on the data collection instrument:** For both 1996-97 and 1997-98, the information was submitted as an aggregate figure only. It was not broken out by type of weapon or school level.

Note: NA = not available.

Gun-Free Schools Act (GFSA)
Texas

1997-98 Data

Question 1. Number of students expelled under state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

School Level	Handguns	Rifles/ Shotguns	Other Firearms	Total
Elementary	28	0	5	33
Junior High	98	0	38	136
Senior High	159	44	52	255
Total	285	44	95	424

Question:		Number	Percent
2.	Number of shortened expulsions	176	42%
3.	Number in #2 (above) that were not disabled	114	65%
4.	Number of expulsions (in #1) referred to an alternative program	333	79%

Year-to-Year Data Comparison – 1996-97 to 1997-98

	1996-97	1997-98
Total number of expulsions	532	424
Change (1996-97 to 1997-98)		-108
Percent Change		-20%

★ **Caveats or notes on the data collection instrument:** None.

Gun-Free Schools Act (GFSA)
Utah

1997-98 Data

Question 1. Number of students expelled under state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

School Level	Handguns	Rifles/ Shotguns	Other Firearms	Total
Elementary	2	0	0	2
Junior High	2	0	0	2
Senior High	4	1	0	5
Total	8	1	0	9

Question:		Number	Percent
2.	Number of shortened expulsions	NA	
3.	Number in #2 (above) that were not disabled	NA	
4.	Number of expulsions (in #1) referred to an alternative program	NA	

Year-to-Year Data Comparison – 1996-97 to 1997-98

	1996-97	1997-98
Total number of expulsions	80	9
Change (1996-97 to 1997-98)		-71
Percent Change		-89%

★ **Caveats or notes on the data collection instrument:** For 1996-97, some of the reported expulsions may have been for other reasons than bringing a gun to school.

Note: NA = not available.

Gun-Free Schools Act (GFSA)
Vermont

1997-98 Data

Question 1. Number of students expelled under state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

School Level	Handguns	Rifles/ Shotguns	Other Firearms	Total
Elementary	0	0	0	0
Junior High	2	0	0	2
Senior High	1	1	1	3
Total	3	1	1	5

Question:		Number	Percent
2.	Number of shortened expulsions	1	20%
3.	Number in #2 (above) that were not disabled	1	100%
4.	Number of expulsions (in #1) referred to an alternative program	NA	

Year-to-Year Data Comparison – 1996-97 to 1997-98

	1996-97	1997-98
Total number of expulsions	5	5
Change (1996-97 to 1997-98)		0
Percent Change		0%

★ **Caveats or notes on the data collection instrument:** Included in the 5 reported 1997-98 incidents is a case where one student brought 2 guns (a handgun and a hunting rifle). This was counted as one incident under "handgun."

Note: NA = not available.

Gun-Free Schools Act (GFSA)
Virginia

1997-98 Data

Question 1. Number of students expelled under state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

School Level	Handguns	Rifles/ Shotguns	Other Firearms	Total
Elementary	5	NA	2	7
Junior High	16	NA	16	32
Senior High	40	NA	20	60
Total	61	NA	38	99

Question:		Number	Percent
2.	Number of shortened expulsions	NA	
3.	Number in #2 (above) that were not disabled	NA	
4.	Number of expulsions (in #1) referred to an alternative program	NA	

Year-to-Year Data Comparison – 1996-97 to 1997-98

	1996-97	1997-98
Total number of expulsions	92	99
Change (1996-97 to 1997-98)		7
Percent Change		8%

★ **Caveats or notes on the data collection instrument:** In both 1996-97 and 1997-98, Virginia did not differentiate between handguns and rifles.

Note: NA = not available.

Gun-Free Schools Act (GFSA)
Washington

1997-98 Data

Question 1. Number of students expelled under state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

School Level	Handguns	Rifles/ Shotguns	Other Firearms	Total
Elementary	19	2	1	22
Junior High	53	0	7	60
Senior High	79	22	7	108
Total	151	24	15	190

Question:		Number	Percent
2.	Number of shortened expulsions	163	86%
3.	Number in #2 (above) that were not disabled	124	76%
4.	Number of expulsions (in #1) referred to an alternative program	171	90%

Year-to-Year Data Comparison – 1996-97 to 1997-98

	1996-97	1997-98
Total number of expulsions	146	190
Change (1996-97 to 1997-98)		44
Percent Change		30%

★ **Caveats or notes on the data collection instrument:** None.

Gun-Free Schools Act (GFSA)
West Virginia

1997-98 Data

Question 1. Number of students expelled under state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

School Level	Handguns	Rifles/ Shotguns	Other Firearms	Total
Elementary	2	0	0	2
Junior High	7	0	0	7
Senior High	5	3	0	8
Total	14	3	0	17

Question:		Number	Percent
2.	Number of shortened expulsions	0	0%
3.	Number in #2 (above) that were not disabled	0	0%
4.	Number of expulsions (in #1) referred to an alternative program	0	0%

Year-to-Year Data Comparison – 1996-97 to 1997-98

	1996-97	1997-98
Total number of expulsions	27	17
Change (1996-97 to 1997-98)		-10
Percent Change		-37%

★ **Caveats or notes on the data collection instrument:** None.

Gun-Free Schools Act (GFSA)
Wisconsin

1997-98 Data

Question 1. Number of students expelled under state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

School Level	Handguns	Rifles/ Shotguns	Other Firearms	Total
Elementary	8	0	2	10
Junior High	17	2	8	27
Senior High	18	2	9	29
Total	43	4	19	66

Question:		Number	Percent
2.	Number of shortened expulsions	10	15%
3.	Number in #2 (above) that were not disabled	3	30%
4.	Number of expulsions (in #1) referred to an alternative program	NA	

Year-to-Year Data Comparison – 1996-97 to 1997-98

	1996-97	1997-98
Total number of expulsions	54	66
Change (1996-97 to 1997-98)		12
Percent Change		22%

★ **Caveats or notes on the data collection instrument:** None.

Gun-Free Schools Act (GFSA)
Wyoming

1997-98 Data

Question 1. Number of students expelled under state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

School Level	Handguns	Rifles/ Shotguns	Other Firearms	Total
Elementary	0	0	0	0
Junior High	0	0	0	0
Senior High	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0	0

Question:		Number	Percent
2.	Number of shortened expulsions	0	0%
3.	Number in #2 (above) that were not disabled	0	0%
4.	Number of expulsions (in #1) referred to an alternative program	0	0%

Year-to-Year Data Comparison – 1996-97 to 1997-98

	1996-97	1997-98
Total number of expulsions	0	0
Change (1996-97 to 1997-98)		0
Percent Change		--

★ **Caveats or notes on the data collection instrument:** None.

Gun-Free Schools Act (GFSA)
Puerto Rico

1997-98 Data

Question 1. Number of students expelled under state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

School Level	Handguns	Rifles/ Shotguns	Other Firearms	Total
Elementary	0	0	0	0
Junior High	0	0	0	0
Senior High	1	0	0	1
Total	1	0	0	1

Question:		Number	Percent
2.	Number of shortened expulsions	1	100%
3.	Number in #2 (above) that were not disabled	1	100%
4.	Number of expulsions (in #1) referred to an alternative program	0	0%

Year-to-Year Data Comparison – 1996-97 to 1997-98

	1996-97	1997-98
Total number of expulsions	0	1
Change (1996-97 to 1997-98)		1
Percent Change		--

★ **Caveats or notes on the data collection instrument:** None.

Gun-Free Schools Act (GFSA)
American Samoa

1997-98 Data

Question 1. Number of students expelled under state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

School Level	Handguns	Rifles/ Shotguns	Other Firearms	Total
Elementary	0	0	0	0
Junior High	0	0	0	0
Senior High	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0	0

Question:		Number	Percent
2.	Number of shortened expulsions	0	0%
3.	Number in #2 (above) that were not disabled	0	0%
4.	Number of expulsions (in #1) referred to an alternative program	0	0%

Year-to-Year Data Comparison – 1996-97 to 1997-98

	1996-97	1997-98
Total number of expulsions	--	0
Change (1996-97 to 1997-98)		--
Percent Change		--

★ **Caveats or notes on the data collection instrument:** None.

Gun-Free Schools Act (GFSA)
Guam

1997-98 Data

Question 1. Number of students expelled under state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

School Level	Handguns	Rifles/ Shotguns	Other Firearms	Total
Elementary	0	0	0	0
Junior High	0	0	0	0
Senior High	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0	0

Question:		Number	Percent
2.	Number of shortened expulsions	0	0%
3.	Number in #2 (above) that were not disabled	0	0%
4.	Number of expulsions (in #1) referred to an alternative program	0	0%

Year-to-Year Data Comparison – 1996-97 to 1997-98

	1996-97	1997-98
Total number of expulsions	0	0
Change (1996-97 to 1997-98)		0
Percent Change		--

★ **Caveats or notes on the data collection instrument:** None.

Gun-Free Schools Act (GFSA)
Northern Marianas

1997-98 Data

Question 1. Number of students expelled under state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

School Level	Handguns	Rifles/ Shotguns	Other Firearms	Total
Elementary	0	0	0	0
Junior High	0	0	0	0
Senior High	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0	0

Question:		Number	Percent
2.	Number of shortened expulsions	0	0%
3.	Number in #2 (above) that were not disabled	0	0%
4.	Number of expulsions (in #1) referred to an alternative program	0	0%

Year-to-Year Data Comparison – 1996-97 to 1997-98

	1996-97	1997-98
Total number of expulsions	1	0
Change (1996-97 to 1997-98)		-1
Percent Change		-100%

★ **Caveats or notes on the data collection instrument:** None.

Gun-Free Schools Act (GFSA)
Virgin Islands

1997-98 Data

Question 1. Number of students expelled under state law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.

School Level	Handguns	Rifles/ Shotguns	Other Firearms	Total
Elementary	0	0	0	0
Junior High	0	0	0	0
Senior High	2	0	0	2
Total	2	0	0	2

Question:		Number	Percent
2.	Number of shortened expulsions	0	0%
3.	Number in #2 (above) that were not disabled	0	0%
4.	Number of expulsions (in #1) referred to an alternative program	2	100%

Year-to-Year Data Comparison – 1996-97 to 1997-98

	1996-97	1997-98
Total number of expulsions	1	2
Change (1996-97 to 1997-98)		1
Percent Change		100%

★ **Caveats or notes on the data collection instrument:** None.

Appendix A – The Gun-Free Schools Act

"PART F – GUN POSSESSION

"Sec. 14601. GUN-FREE REQUIREMENTS

Gun-Free Schools Act of 1994
20 USC 8921.

"(a) SHORT TITLE. – This section may be cited as the 'Gun-Free Schools Act of 1994'.

"(b) REQUIREMENTS. –

"(1) IN GENERAL. – Except as provided in paragraph (3), each State receiving Federal funds under this Act shall have in effect a State law requiring local educational agencies to expel from school for a period of not less than one year a student who is determined to have brought a weapon to a school under the jurisdiction of local educational agencies in that State, except that such State law shall allow the chief administering officer of such local educational agency to modify such expulsion requirement for a student on a case-by-case basis.

"(2) CONSTRUCTION. – Nothing in this title shall be construed to prevent a State from allowing a local educational agency that has expelled a student from such a student's regular school setting from providing educational services to such student in an alternative setting.

"(3) SPECIAL RULE. – (A) Any State that has a law in effect prior to the date of enactment of the Improving America's Schools Act of 1994 which is in conflict with the not less than one year expulsion requirement described in paragraph (1) shall have the period of time described in subparagraph (B) to comply with such requirement.

"(B) The period of time shall be the period beginning on the date of enactment of the Improving America's Schools Act and ending one year after such date.

"(4) DEFINITION. – For the purpose of this section, the term 'weapon' means a firearm as such term is defined in section 921 of title 18, United States Code.

"(c) SPECIAL RULE. – The provisions of this section shall be construed in a manner consistent with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

"(d) REPORT TO STATE. – Each local educational agency requesting assistance from the State educational agency that is to be provided from funds made available to the State under this Act shall provide to the States, in the application requesting such assistance –

"(1) an assurance that such local educational agency is in compliance with the State law required by subsection (b); and

"(2) a description of the circumstances surrounding any expulsions imposed under the State law required by subsection (b), including –

"(A) the name of the school concerned;

"(B) the number of students expelled form such school; and

"(C) the type of weapons concerned.

"(e) REPORTING. – Each State shall report the information described in subsection (c) to the Secretary on an annual basis.

"(f) REPORT TO CONGRESS. – Two years after the date of enactment of the Improving America's Schools Act of 1994, the Secretary shall report to Congress if any State is not in compliance with the requirements of this title.

"SEC. 14602. POLICY REGARDING CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM REFERRAL.

"(a) IN GENERAL. – No funds shall be made available under this Act to any local educational agency unless such agency has a policy requiring referral to the criminal justice or juvenile delinquency system of any student who brings a firearm or weapon to school served by such agency.

"(b) DEFINITIONS. – For the purpose of this section, the terms 'firearm' and 'school' have the same meaning given to such terms by section 921(a) of title 18, United States Code.

"SEC. 14603. DATA AND POLICY DISSEMINATION UNDER IDEA

"The Secretary shall –

"(1) widely disseminate the policy of the Department in effect on the date of enactment of the Improving America's Schools Act of 1994 with respect to disciplining children with disabilities;

"(2) collect data on the incidence of children with disabilities (as such term is defined in section 602(a)(1) of the Individuals With Disabilities Education Act) engaging in life threatening behavior or bringing weapons to schools; and

"(3) submit a report to Congress not later than January 31, 1995, analyzing the strengths and problems with the current approaches regarding disciplining children with disabilities.

Appendix B – GFSA Data Collection Instrument

ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION ACT (ESEA), as amended by the IMPROVING AMERICA'S SCHOOLS ACT OF 1994 (IASA), TITLE XIV, PART F

FORM APPROVED
OMB #1810-0602

Expiration Date: 4/30/00

GUN-FREE SCHOOLS ACT REPORT

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless such collection displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 1810-0602. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 8 hours per response, including the time to review instructions, search existing data resources, gather the data needed, and complete and review the information collection. **If you have any comments concerning the accuracy of the time estimate or suggestions for improving this form, please write to:** U.S. Department of Education, Washington, DC 20202-4651. **If you have comments or concerns regarding the status of your individual submission of this form, write directly to:** Safe and Drug-Free Schools Program, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, S.W., Washington, DC 20202-6123.

RESPONDENT INFORMATION

State Name:
Name of Agency Responding:
Name and Title of Individual Completing this Report:
Mailing Address:
Telephone and Fax Number of Individual Completing this Report: Phone: (___)___-____ Fax: (___)___-____

GUN-FREE SCHOOLS ACT REPORT

INTRODUCTION

The Gun-Free Schools Act (GFSA), Part F of Title XIV of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) of 1965 requires that each State have in effect a State law requiring local educational agencies (LEAs) to expel from school for a period of not less than one year a student found to have brought a weapon to school. In addition, under the GFSA, LEAs receiving ESEA funds must adopt a policy requiring referral to the criminal justice or juvenile delinquency system of any student who brings a firearm to school.

Each State's law also must allow the chief administering officer of the LEA to modify the expulsion requirement on a case-by-case basis. The GFSA also states that nothing in the GFSA shall be construed to prevent a State from allowing a local educational agency that has expelled a student from such student's regular school setting from providing educational services to that student in an alternative setting.

The GFSA also requires States to provide annual reports to the Secretary of Education concerning implementation of the Act's requirements. The Secretary is required to report to Congress if any State is not in compliance with the GFSA.

PLEASE USE THE ATTACHED FORM TO PROVIDE INFORMATION ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GFSA.

GENERAL DIRECTIONS FOR COMPLETING THE REPORT

1. The time period covered by this report is the 1997-98 school year.
2. Please complete this entire form. If questions are left blank, we will not be able to interpret the results and will have to follow up with a phone call. If a response to a question is "0" or "none," be sure to enter "0" or "none." If information is not available or not applicable, please indicate by using the following abbreviations:

   MD = Missing Data NA = Not Available
3. Please retain a copy of the completed form for your files so that you will have a copy on hand to refer to if we have questions about your responses.
4. **Please complete the attached form and mail no later than December 1, 1998 to:**

   Westat
   1650 Research Boulevard, Room RA 1216
   Rockville, MD 20850

If questions arise about completing any of the items on the attached form, please do not hesitate to contact the Safe and Drug-Free Schools Program at (202) 260-3954 for clarification.

Form Approved: OMB No. 1810-0602: Expiration Date: 4/30/00

ABBREVIATIONS AND DEFINITIONS

LEA Local educational agency
GFSA Gun-Free Schools Act
IDEA Individuals with Disabilities Education Act
ESEA Elementary and Secondary Education Act

Elementary school A school classified as elementary by state and local practice and composed of any span of grades not above Grade 6. Combined elementary/junior high schools are considered junior high schools and combined elementary and secondary schools (e.g., K-12 buildings) are classified as high schools for this report.

Junior high school A separately organized and administered school intermediate between elementary and senior high schools, which might also be called a middle school, usually includes Grades 7, 8, and 9; Grade 7 and 8; or Grades 6, 7, and 8. Combined elementary/junior high schools are considered junior high schools for this report; junior/senior high school combinations are defined as senior high schools.

Senior high school A school offering the final years of school work necessary for graduation, usually including Grades 10, 11, and 12; or Grades 9, 10, 11, and 12. Combined junior and senior high schools are classified as high schools for this form; combined elementary and secondary schools (e.g., K-12 buildings) are classified as high schools.

Other firearms Firearms other than handguns, rifles or shotguns as defined in 18 USC 921. According to Section 921, the following are included within the definition:

-- any weapon (including a starter gun) which will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of any explosive;
-- the frame or receiver of any weapon described above;
-- any firearm muffler or firearm silencer;
-- any destructive device, which includes:

(a) any explosive, incendiary, or poison gas
  (1). bomb;
  (2). grenade,
  (3). rocket having a propellant charge of more than four ounces,
  (4). missile having an explosive or incendiary charge of more than
  (5). one-quarter ounce,
  (6). mine, or
  (7). similar device

(b) any weapon which will, or which may be readily converted to, expel a projectile by the action of an explosive or other propellant, and which has any barrel with a bore of more than one-half inch in diameter

(c) any combination or parts either designed or intended for use in converting any device into any destructive device described in the two immediately preceding examples, and from which a destructive device may be readily assembled.

Form Approved: OMB No. 1810-0602: Expiration Date: 4/30/00

FIREARMS EXPULSIONS

1. **Please indicate the number of students expelled in your State under your State's law that requires a one-year expulsion for a student who brings a firearm to school.** *[Do not include in your response to this question students who have brought a firearm to school but who have not been expelled, whether because of disability, an intervening court order, delays in the process, or any other reason.]*

School Level	Handguns	Rifles/Shotguns	Other Firearms	Total
Elementary School				
Junior High School				
Senior High School				
Total				

2. **How many of the expulsions reported in item #1 were shortened to a term of less than one year by the chief administering officer of an LEA under the case-by-case modification provisions of Section 14601(b)(1) of the GFSA?** *[Do not include in your response to this question modifications under the case-by-case exception provision of Section 14601(b)(1) other than those that shorten the term of the expulsion to less than one year.]*

Number of Shortened Expulsions: ☐

3. **How many of the modifications reported in item #2 were for students who are *not* students with disabilities as defined in Section 602(a)(1) of the IDEA?**

Number of shortened expulsions in #2, NOT disabled: ☐

[The GFSA explicitly states that the Act must be construed in a manner consistent with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). Compliance with the GFSA can be achieved consistent with the IDEA as long as discipline of such students is determined on a case-by-case basis under the GFSA provision that permits modification of the expulsion requirement on a case-by-case basis. A student with a disability who brings a firearm to school may be removed from school for ten school days or less, and in accordance with State law, placed in an interim alternative educational setting that is determined by the student's individualized education program team, for up to 45 calendar days. If the student's parents initiate due process proceedings under the IDEA, the student must remain in that interim alternative educational setting during authorized review proceedings, unless the parents and school district can agree on a different placement. Before an expulsion can occur, the IDEA requires a determination by a group of persons knowledgeable about the student on whether the bringing of a firearm to school was a manifestation of the student's disability. A student with a disability may be expelled only if this group of persons determines that the bringing of a firearm to school was not a manifestation of the student's disability, and the school follows applicable IDEA procedural safeguards

before the expulsion occurs. Under IDEA, students with disabilities who are expelled in accordance with these conditions must continue to receive educational services during the expulsion period. Under Section 602 (a)(1) of the IDEA, the term "children with disabilities" is defined as:

children --

(i) with mental retardation, hearing impairments including deafness, speech or language impairments, visual impairments, including blindness, serious emotional disturbance, orthopedic impairments, autism, traumatic brain injury, other health impairments, or specific learning disabilities; and

(ii) who, by reason thereof, need special education and related services.]

4. **How many of the expulsions reported in item #1 resulted in a referral of the expelled student to an alternative school or program?**

Number of expelled students in #1 referred to an alternative placement: [ ]

LEA COMPLIANCE

5. **List the name and address of each LEA that has not provided an assurance that it is in compliance with the State law that requires that a student who brings a firearm to school be expelled for one year.** *(If all LEAs have provided the necessary assurance, please indicate "none" in response to this item.)*

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

(Attach a separate sheet if more space is required to list LEAs.)

6. **List the name and address of each LEA that has not provided an assurance that it is in compliance with the requirement in Section 14602 that an LEA receiving ESEA funds have in place a policy requiring referral to the criminal justice or juvenile delinquency system of any student who brings a firearm to a school.** *(If all LEAs have provided the necessary assurance, please indicate "none" in response to this item.)*

(Attach a separate sheet if more space is required to list LEAs.)